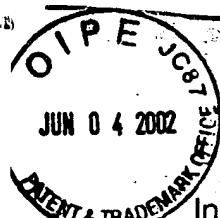


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Joseph H. Sklar et al.
Serial No.: 09/715,714
Filing Date: 11/17/00
For: FIXATION SCREW, GRAFT LIGAMENT
ANCHOR ASSEMBLY, AND METHOD FOR
SECURING A GRAFT LIGAMENT IN A
BONE TUNNEL
Group Art Unit: 3738
Examiner: Bruce Edward Snow
Attorney's Docket No.: INNO-31

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby make the following documents of record in the above-identified application:

U.S. Patents

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,632,748 issued 05/27/1997 to Beck, Jr. et al.
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,899,938 issued 05/04/1999 to Sklar et al.

Copies of these documents, which are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (one page), are enclosed herewith. Applicants respectfully request that these documents be fully considered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application and printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicants also respectfully request that a copy of Form PTO-1449 (one page), as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next communication.

It is believed that this disclosure complies with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. If for any reason the Examiner considers otherwise, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted by the Examiner by telephone in order that any deficiencies may be expeditiously remedied.

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The enclosed documents may have markings thereon. Applicants are not presently aware of the source of those markings, and no significance is meant to be attached thereto.

Please charge any additional fees due in connection with this submission, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. A duplicate copy of this submission is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Sheridan 5/15/02

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